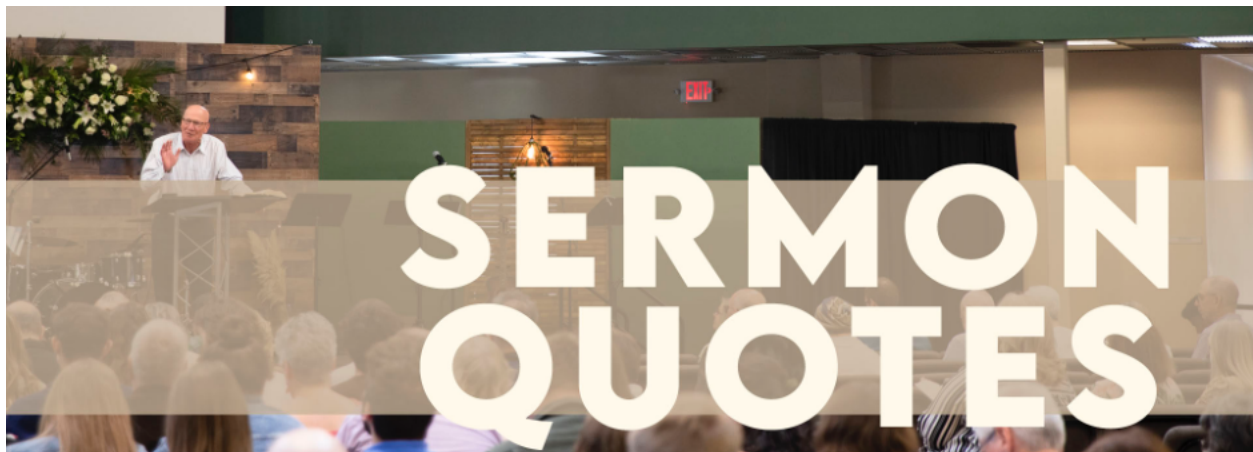




“The outer person is what belongs to this world that is temporary and crumbling, and what those who only evaluate things from a fleshly perspective can see. By contrast, the inner person belongs to what has ultimate significance and is being transformed and prepared for resurrection life through God’s matchless power.” —David Garland

**“Whatever else he may be doing in your life, with every pang and every year, God is preparing you for heaven, and he is preparing heaven for you. You are headed for glory. Suffering is how you will get there. And, as John Newton, put it, “When you get to heaven, you will not complain of the way by which the Lord brought you.”
—Matthew McCullough**

“Hope encourages the soul to venture on the greatest difficulties. Hope enlivens the soul in its duties. Hope is the spring that sets all the wheels in motion. Would the farmer plough and sow if he did not hope for the harvest? Would the soldier fight if he did not hope for the victory? Therefore, Christian, when you are winding up your affections to heaven, remember to wind up your hope as well.” —Richard Baxter

“Two men had to cross a dangerous bridge. The first convinced himself that it would bear them, and called this conviction Faith. The

second said, ‘Whether it breaks or holds, whether I die here or somewhere else, I am equally in God’s good hands.’ And the bridge did break and they were both killed: and the second man’s Faith was not disappointed and the first man’s was.” —C.S. Lewis

“In heaven, we will be perfected by sight. And on earth, we are being purified by hope.” —Matthew McCullough

“A zealous man in religion is pre-eminently a man of one thing... He only sees one thing, he cares for one thing, he lives for one thing, he is swallowed up in one thing: and that one thing is to please God. Whether he lives, or whether he dies-whether he has health, or whether he has sickness-whether he is rich, or whether he is poor-whether he pleases man, or whether he gives offence...whether he gets honour, or whether he gets shame—for all this the zealous man cares nothing at all. He burns for one thing; and that one thing is to please God, and to advance God's glory.” —J.C. Ryle

**“Your service might not be what you thought it would be or look the way you thought it would look. Along the way, you may have to redefine ‘good works;’ remember, our good works don’t have to be spectacular to be valued in God’s kingdom. Suffering with God’s name on our lips may be the very good work he has in mind for you to do!”
—Katie Faris**

“It is important to see that Paul does not describe himself as seeking to please the Lord by his works. His ambition is greater and deeper. He seeks to be pleasing to the Lord. His ambition includes the whole of his person and being. He is not in a position to remake himself so that he might be pleasing to the Lord. Nor need he do so. God has already remade him for the life of the resurrection and his home with the Lord. Paul seeks to be what God has made him to be in Christ.”

—David Garland